

United States Attorney District of Maryland Northern Division

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BWI BAGGAGE HANDLER, WIFE AND NEW YORK MAN ARRESTED FOR MAIL THEFT AND IDENTITY FRAUD SCHEME

Baltimore, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that Kehinde Akintola Oladapo, age 47, of Lanham, Maryland, a BWI baggage handler, was arrested and charged by criminal complaint for theft of mail on September 3, 2004. His wife, Olushola Oladapo, age 45, also of Lanham, Maryland, was arrested on September 4, 2004 and charged by criminal complaint on September 7, 2004 with conspiracy to commit mail theft. Also on September 4, 2004, the couple's alleged accomplice, Oladapo Udukale a/k/a Oladapo Odukale, age 34, of Brooklyn, New York, was arrested and charged by criminal complaint with conspiracy, possession of stolen mail and identity theft. The arrests were made in connection with mail allegedly stolen from BWI and remailed to Brooklyn, New York for distribution across the country.

The arrests are the result of a long-term investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the United States Attorney's Office into complaints of credit cards, convenience checks and other financial documents being stolen from mail transported through flights leaving BWI Airport.

Execution of a search warrant resulted in Postal Inspectors finding stolen mail in a package mailed from the BWI post office. Additional search warrants were executed on September 4, 2004 at three locations in Maryland and New York, with Inspectors at one of the New York locations recovering bags of opened and unopened mail, as well as hundreds of bank convenience checks and credits cards issued to consumers across the United States. Four credit cards in the names of other individuals, as well as several Express Mail envelopes, one to one of the Brooklyn addresses, were found in Olushola Oladapo's purse at the couple's residence.

Oladapo Udukale had his initial appearance in Brooklyn for removal to Maryland on September 5, 2004. The remaining two defendants are scheduled for initial appearances today in Baltimore.

The maximum penalty for conspiracy and mail theft is five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The maximum penalty for identity theft is three years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

A criminal complaint is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by criminal complaint is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and involved Inspectors from both the Maryland and New York areas. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Tamera Fine and Kwame Manley. Assistant U.S. Attorney Gurbir Gerwal assisted with regard to the Brooklyn, New York search warrants and initial appearance.